Wayman Adams collection S1245

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December 22, 2017

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts 140 North Senate Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204 317-232-3671

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Summary Information

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Repository Rare Books and Manuscripts

Title Wayman Adams collection

Date 1924-1935

Extent 0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder

Language English

Graphic materials [Folder] S1245

Preferred Citation

Wayman Adams collection, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Wayman Elbridge Adams was an American painter, born on September 23, 1883, on a farm in Muncie, Indiana, to Nelson Perry Adams and Mary Elizabeth (Justice) Adams. Adams, who received no formal education beyond grade school, was taught to paint animals by his father, an amateur artist. As a young man, Wayman worked as a manager in Louisville, Kentucky, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. At the age of 21, he moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, and enrolled in the John Herron Art Institute where he studied under William Forsythe. As an art student, Wayman was able to travel to Europe, where he met Margaret Boroughs, an art student from Texas, who he married in 1918. The couple had a son, Wayman, Jr., who often served as a model for his father's artwork. Wayman Adams accepted numerous commissioned to paint portraits of American political figures, including 6 Indiana governors and Presidents Harding, Coolidge, and Hoover, as well as Hoosier poet James Whitcomb Riley and many other prominent figures. Adams died in Austin, Texas on April 9, 1959.

Sources:

Blanton, Joseph E., and Kendall Curlee. "Wayman Adams." In *Handbook of Texas Online*. Accessed December 22, 2017. https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fad09.

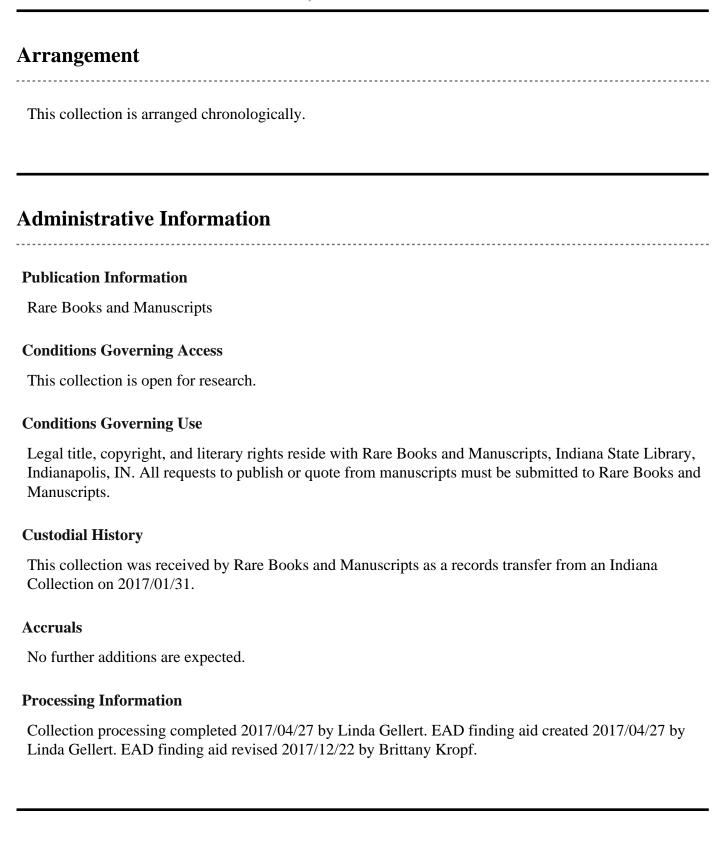
FindaGrave.com. "Wayman Elbridge Adams." Find a Grave Index. Accessed December 22, 2017. https://www.findagrave.com.

Fine Estate Art. "Wayman E. Adams." Accessed December 22, 2017. http://fineestateart.com/artists/wayman_e_adams.

Indiana Historical Bureau. "Indiana Governor Portrait Artist: Wayman Adams (1883-1959). Accessed December 22, 2017. http://www.in.gov/history/2790.htm.

Scope and Contents

The collection includes 11 original, signed linocut (linoleum block) greeting cards made by Wayman Adams, 10 of which are Christmas cards from 1924 to 1933. The last is a New Year's card from 1935. Most of the cards depict, Adams' son, Wayman "Snig" Adams, Jr. The collection also includes a photograph of Wayman Adams and Frank Atkins, shore captain of the schooner *Regina*, in the doorway of Booth Tarkington's boat house on the Kennebunk River in Maine.



Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)

- Christmas cards
- Greeting cards

Personal Name(s)

• Adams, Wayman, 1883-1959

Subject(s)

- Art
- Artists
- Artists--Indiana
- Children
- Christmas
- Family life
- Linoleum block-printing
- New Year cards